

**Abstract**

The present invention relates to a nucleic acid molecule comprising the *HpYPSI* gene encoding *H. polymorpha* yapsin1, a polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule, a *H. polymorpha* mutant strain having reduced yapsin activity by mutation of the *HpYPS* gene encoding *H. polymorpha* yapsin1, a recombinant *H. polymorpha* strain expressing a foreign protein produced by introducing a gene encoding the foreign protein into the *H. polymorpha* mutant strain, and a process for preparing a foreign protein comprising culturing the recombinant *H. polymorpha* strain under conditions to express the foreign protein and isolating the foreign protein from the culture.

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